Payment of power tariffs by consumers

835. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power consumers in the country are paying highest tariffs in the world for energy supplies/services based on the average purchasing power parity price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the tariff in US, Germany, Japan and China?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) As per the statistics published by the International Energy Agency, in the year 2006, the retail prices of electricity for industrial and household consumers in USA, Japan, China (Taipei), France and United Kingdom (UK) were as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Industrial Consumers		Household Consumers	
		Price in US$/kWh	Price in Rs./ Kwh*	Price in US$/kWh	Price in Rs./ Kwh*
1.	USA	0.0549	2.25	0.0961	3.94
2.	Japan	0.1272	5.21	0.1963	8.05
3.	China (Taipei)	0.0512	2.10	0.0690	2.83
4.	France	0.0483	1.98	0.1365	5.59
5.	UK	0.1003	4.11	0.1580	6.47

* Above conversion for comparison purposes has been done using an exchange rate of 1 US$ = Rs.41.00

As against above, in the year 2006 the prices of electricity for domestic consumers of 400 kWh per month in India in various states were in the range of Rs. 1.14 to Rs. 5.16 and that for various classes of industrial consumers in India in various states were in the range of Rs. 1.57 to Rs. 8.04.

Status of UMPP at Sasan

836. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the last six months, the country's largest Greenfield power project is on standby mode;

(b) whether it is also a fact that six months after it chose a bidder for the 4000 MW Ultra Mega Power project (UMPP) at Sasan in Madhya Pradesh and gave it a Letter of Intent, the Ministry now cannot decide whether or not to award the contract; and

(c) if so, whether Government have made any investigations in this matter and if so, the action proposed thereon?